THE
DISSEMINATOR
Nova Scotia Provincial Library
ISSN:1209-2473

V.9, N.5 May 2002

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NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL)
Official Sod-turning

May 9 was a bright and sunny morning for the official sod-turning ceremony at the site of the new Dr. Frank W. Morse Memorial Library in Lawrencetown.

Funds for the new library have been made available through a private donation from the family

of the late "Dr. Frank", a well-loved family doctor and member of the community. A large crowd was on hand to launch the project and the facility is expected to be completed and officially opened on August 29 of this year.

Hackmatack 2002

AVRL's Hackmatack author visits took place on Friday, May 17. Ann Love and Jane Drake gave presentations at two schools, while Shane Peacock entertained audiences at one school and the Wolfville Memorial Library. All programs were open to the public and those in attendance enjoyed the opportunity to listen and speak with these celebrated authors.

Atlantic Book Week

Atlantic Book Week was celebrated with a reading and book signing to launch two new titles by authors Susan Haley, author of *Maggie's Family* and Peter Sanger, who wrote *Spar: Words in Place*. The event was sponsored by Gaspereau Press.

CAP News

Through various CAP associated funds, AVRL is currently offering technology-related programming in seven branch libraries. Programs include one-on-one tutorials, after-school, and pre-school events. AVRL recently received news that HRDC-related summer funding will allow these programs to continue.

Also via HRDC funds, AVRL will have three Summer Program Directors hosting non-technology related programs in four branches.

Cape Breton Regional Library (CBRL)

Read To Me

The family literacy initiative called *Read To Me!*, which was launched on Monday, January 28, 2002 is running smoothly in Sydney. Under this program, each new mother receives a beautiful yellow canvas bag containing two books, information on reading development and community literacy resources, as well as baby's first library card. The pre-stuffed bags are sent to CBRL via the Provincial Library delivery system and transported to the hospital by CBRL.

In support of *Read To Me*!, two new children's programs are in development at CBRL and should be operational by September 2002. *Beginning With Books* is designed to meet the needs of infants up to 18 months, and *Mother Goose Time* will address the needs of children between 18 months and three years. With these new programs, CBRL looks forward to helping parents stimulate their baby's language development. Due to the generous support received from the IWK Health Centre Foundation External Grants Program, CBRL will now be able to work with children under the age of three.

Hackmatack 2002

Once again this year, CBRL took part in Hackmatack 2002. As in past years, a highlight of participating in the Hackmatack Children's Choice Award is playing host to visiting authors.

Rachna Gilmore, who wrote the short-listed *Mina's Spring of Colors*, visited the New Waterford Public Library on May 17, where the children really enjoyed her visit.

Left to right: Vivien Bowers and Rachna Gilmore at Halifax International Airport.

Winner of the non-fiction Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award 2002, Vivien also visited Cape Breton. Vivien's award winning book *WOW Canada!*, wowed the school children of Reserve Mines and Glace Bay on May 17, 2002.

Colchester-East Hants Regional Library (CEHRL)

CEHRL's main branch in Truro recently amended its open hours to allow for a Sunday shift, 2-5 p.m., from September to May. The Sunday afternoons have proved to be very popular with families and people of all ages, with the first Sunday, March 3, seeing numerous patrons waiting for the doors to open! The weeknight closure changed from 9 p.m. to 8p.m. to allow for the new Sunday hours.

Open Tuesday and Thursday evenings since January, the Gates Learning Centre is welcoming a growing number of computer users; in fact, the turnout is reaching almost the same levels achieved in the afternoons.

Recognizing the value of CEHRL's extensive open hours, on three occasions, the Town of Truro has placed books of condolence in the library; first after the death of Pierre Trudeau, next following the events of September 11, and most recently upon the death of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother. The public has been very appreciative of these opportunities to express their feelings; indeed on the most recent occasion, a minister and his family travelled from River John to sign the book after an unsuccessful search for the opportunity in Pictou County.

Thanks to a Canada Council grant, two Hackmatack Award nominees visited CEHRL branches in May. Valerie Wyatt, author of *FAQ Weather* and Ting-Xing Ye, author of *White Lily,* delighted audiences and staff alike.

Grant proposals to the Resource Recovery Fund Board (RRFB) brought $2000 for the purchase of books on recycling and composting.

On April 23, Library Board Chair, Edith Patterson launched CEHRL's first 50/50 Lotto. CEHRL hopes to sell 2,000 tickets @ $5.00 by the September 24 draw date. At Truro's recent International Tulip Festival, Ceilidh the corgi, and Jack the bull terrier (accompanied by their humans, Lynda Marsh and Daphne Cragg), drew crowds to the library's booth where folks could buy their lucky tickets and learn about this year's Summer Reading Program.

Casual Dress Fridays to raise money for good causes have been growing in popularity. Staff recently approved a calendar listing the organizations to be supported and the months set aside to raise funds for them. Six months of the year have been earmarked for the library foundation and the other half year will be shared by the hospital foundation, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Heart and Stroke Foundation, Arthritis Society, Canadian Red Cross, and the Canadian Diabetes Association.

May 5-11 was *Leave a Legacy Week*. This year, the library joined with five other organizations

to mark this special week locally. A street banner in Truro, a supplement in the Truro Daily News, and public service announcements on radio, cable TV, and in church bulletins were arranged.

While CEHRL continues to look for a solution to the space crisis in Truro, accessibility to the Gates Centre and meeting rooms in the basement has been achieved with the successful installation of two stair glides. The $10,000 grant from the provincial government's Community ACCESS-ability program went a long way to cover the $15,580 cost.

Cumberland Regional Library (CURL)

There was plenty of excitement at CURL when Eric Walters and Linda Granfield visited during Hackmatack week. Eric entertained children in the Springhill and Amherst Libraries not only with readings but with card tricks as well! Linda showed overhead slides from her book *Pier 21* at the River Hebert and Amherst Libraries. Grades 4, 5, and 6, classes from local schools were invited to the readings.

Eric Walters communicating with his young audience at the Springhill Library after his performance.

Eric Walters shown with some more young people at the Springhill Library who were struck by his magical talents!

Linda Granville shown talking with her young audience during her visit to the River Hebert Library.

A Mother's Day Craft Class was held for kids in Amherst, and the adult book discussion groups in Amherst, Pugwash, and Springhill wrapped up for the season and will start again in September. A Gardening Workshop is planned for the end of May and Amherst staff are busy setting up a display for the *Positively Amherst* Heritage Building Celebration. *Positively Amherst* is an initiative of the local Chamber of Commerce, RDA, and other community groups, undertaken to promote the Town as a great place to live and work. The Heritage Building Celebration will highlight some of the historic buildings in Amherst such as the Amherst Library, which was formerly the Acadia Street School. Plans are underway to make a display of old class photos of previous students of the school.

Several community groups have recently shown their support of CURL. These groups include the Lion's Clubs in both Amherst and Oxford, which purchased large print books and audiobooks, the Tantramar Chapter of the IODE, which made a donation for children's videos, and the Cumberland African Nova Scotian Association (CANSA), which donated funds for material on African Nova Scotians.

Eastern Counties Regional Library (ECRL)

Library management and staff gave a fond farewell and best wishes to Heather Halliday, (shown on the right) who has been the Public Services and Reference Librarian for ECRL for the past six years. Heather has decided to return to her home province of Ontario and will be taking on the role of Adult Services Librarian at the Newmarket Public Library. We wish her all the best in her new position.

On Saturday, May 11, the Sherbrooke Library was the setting for the launch of Thelma Morris-Fogarty's second children's book, *Freckle and the Chicks*. Those in attendance were treated to a reading of the story, complete with accompanying flannel board pictures. According to branch staff, " The new book is delightful and we were so pleased to host the event." After the reading, the children were given pictures to colour and refreshments, provided by St. Mary's Elementary Home and School group.

Halifax Regional Library (HRL)

HRL Wins American Library Association Award

HRL is pleased to announce that it has won the American Library Association's Public Relations Award for its e-branch promotions. The competition, entitled *Best of Show 2002* received applications from 350 libraries from across North America, competing in 12 different categories. A Library representative will be on hand to receive the award at a ceremony to be held in Atlanta, Georgia on June 16, 2002.

Library Reports Impressive Increases in Library Usage

Recently released statistics indicate that the Library has been a busy place this last year. More than two and a half million people visited HRL last year, taking advantage of a wide selection of services, programs and learning opportunities. And while there's been an overall increase in most services, in specific areas, larger increases indicate the Library is meeting an ever-growing demand for services - especially as a provider of free computer and Internet access.

Last year, the Library took 235,092 computer bookings, an increase of 35.5 per cent over the previous year; recorded 516,379 holds placed, an increase of 24.3 per cent; saw 23,019 people register for a library card, up 20.8 percent; and recorded 452,002 visits to its e-branch, **www.halifax.library.ns.ca**. Judith Hare, HRL's CEO says "The number of people using e-branch for their library business demonstrates that they appreciate the convenience of accessing the collection remotely."

The Library continues to be a viable resource by focusing on providing a combination of essential services mixed with modern conveniences.

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL)

A great deal of activity took place at Pictou Counties C@P sites over the past few weeks. Pictou Landing First Nation C@P site held their grand opening ceremony on May 2. This ceremony included the official opening of a Children's Reading Room located within the C@P site. The combination of the C@P site and reading room is the first of it's kind in Canada, developed in partnership with the *Adopt A Library Literacy Program*. As well, grand opening ceremonies took place at Ward One C@P site at the Ward One Social and Recreation Centre located on Brother Street New Glasgow. The ceremonies took place on May 4 in conjunction with the first annual Nova Scotia C@P Day. Premier John Hamm marked the day by officially opening the site. "Hundreds of C@P locations have become more than just affordable public access points to the Internet," Premier Hamm said, "They are giving rural and urban Nova Scotians equal opportunity to gain employable skills for the knowledge economy, no matter where they live."

Information was available at the Highland Square Mall, New Glasgow, regarding the Pictou -

Antigonish Regional Virtual Library and the services provided at the C@P sites. This one-day display held on May 3 generated a lot of interest and hundreds filled out ballots on a draw for gift baskets.

A new, state of the art technology training area has recently been opened at the New Glasgow Library C@P. Complete with the latest in computer software and hardware, this training area is removed from the heavy traffic area of the library, offering a private space for patrons to receive literacy upgrading in addition to the usual computer training.

Also in CAP news, starting May 22, the Northern Region will be the originating office of a new pilot project to create a signage and classification system for the province's CAP program. It is hoped that this effort will result in a more recognizable and consistent image being presented to the public at our CAP sites.

PARL's Antigonish Library recently held a well-attended author reading with Halifax based Donna Morrissey, author of the regional best seller, *Kit's Law*. For nearly an hour Donna read from the pages of her latest novel *Downhill Chance*, at times setting the attentive audience into fits of laugher. After the reading she was busy signing books as the local Coles Book store.

The month of May is the month Canadian authors nominated for the Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award visit Nova Scotia to take part in reading tours and the annual award ceremony at Alderney Landing Theatre. In the Pictou-Antigonish region, children's author and book editor, Shelly Tanaka gave presentations to Hackmatack reading groups and students of the Maryvale Elementary, Pictou Landing First Nations, and the Temperance Street

Elementary schools. During the course of her three-day tour, Shelly spoke to over 150 children and was repeatedly impressed with the quality of questions she was asked. The students had obviously read many titles from her *I Was There* series and were well prepared.

South Shore Regional Library (SSRL)

Lunenburg Library Expansion Opens

The Lunenburg Library renovation is now complete! The Library opened on Friday, May 3, 2002. Approximately 200 people gathered to hear opening comments by Library and Town officials and Lunenburg's Town Crier. Senator Wilfred Moore and Joan Roué opened the William J. Roué Reading Room, while MLA Mike Baker conveyed congratulatory remarks on behalf of the Dept. of Education. Those in attendance enjoyed refreshments and a musical selection performed by the Lunenburg Academy Choir.

Young borrower and volunteer Katie Mosher (centre) declared the Library "officially open" as she cut a ribbon of bookmarks, held by Lunenburg Mayor Laurence Mawhinney (left) and Library Board Vice-Chair Don Zwicker (right).

The William J. Roué Reading Room, pictured, was officially opened by Senator Wilfred Moore at the Lunenburg Library's opening celebration. The reading room, will house seafaring books and shipbuilding information, including original plans from Mr. Roué's collection.

Mayor Laurence Mawhinney conducted Lunenburg Library's first story time in the newly opened children's loft.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell were the first official borrowers following the grand opening ceremonies at the Lunenburg Library.

Western Counties Regional Library (WCRL)

Smart Libraries Project Launch

The Smart Libraries Project of the Fundy Web Smart Demonstration Community Project was officially launched on May 31 at the Isaiah W. Wilson Memorial Library in Digby.

Libraries and library services have changed dramatically since their beginning in Nova Scotia just over 50 years ago, although the fundamentals remain the same. Libraries continue to be integral institutions in our communities, and through advances in technology, Nova Scotia's libraries are, indeed, connecting with their communities in new and exciting ways.

The Smart Libraries Project will result in a virtual library service for those served by the Annapolis Valley and Western Counties Regional Libraries. Now on-line library service will be available to anyone with access to the Internet. With a valid library card, which can be

obtained on-line, users will be able to browse the catalogue, reserve or renew materials, access thousands of magazine articles and reference works, ask a question of a librarian, take part in a book discussion group and perhaps even participate in an on-line program...All without ever entering a library building.

This Smart Libraries Project, is part of one of 12 such demonstration projects chosen by Industry Canada as part of its Connecting Canadians agenda.

Connecting Canadians is the federal government's vision and plan to make Canada the most connected country in the world. In an increasingly competitive and knowledge-based global economy, Canada can benefit by becoming a world leader in the development and use of advanced information and communications technologies. Smart Communities is one vehicle by which Industry Canada is fulfilling this vision. By participating in the development of world-class Smart Communities across the country, the Fundy Web Demonstration Project is helping Canada become a leader in the development and use of information and communications technologies for community development.

Adopt-A-Book

On Friday, May 24, the bookmetre for the *Adopt-A-Book* campaign registered 700 books adopted since April 5. The goal of the campaign, sponsored by CJLS radio station, is to have 1000 books adopted by June 28. The dollar value of the campaign to date is $13,940.

Author Visit

Maxine Trottier, Hackmatack nominee, is shown here with children at the Isaiah W. Wilson Memorial Library, Digby.

Local Girl Guides made Maxine a special cake with an insert of her book, *Dreamstones*.

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL LIBRARY NEWS

Staff at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library and Learning Resources and Technology celebrated North American Occupational Safety and Health week May 5-11.

Staff had an opportunity to win prizes daily by answering "skill testing" questions relating to occupational safety and health. Each day's prize was presented to the winner by a member of the Kempt Road Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee.

(Staff can also see pictures and more detailed captions on the departmental Intranet, in the Occupational Health and Safety section).

TRAINING NOTES

RECRUITMENT @ YOUR LIBRARY - ALA TELECONFERENCE

The Nova Scotia Provincial Library (NSPL) hosted the American Library Association teleconference entitled *Recruitment @ Your Library* broadcast from the College of DuPage on April 26, 2002. The session, which was attended by representatives of various types of Nova Scotia libraries, featured a panel of library professionals who described various recruitment tactics and programs offered by their organizations. These included sponsorship programs aimed at keeping individuals who are already working in libraries, whether as students or clerks, in the field and coaching their further professional development. As well, many programs described are designed to encourage diversity in staffing.

This emphasis reflects the legislative framework in the United States which makes federal funds available for such initiatives. While this reduced the relevance of the specific program structures, the session did offer some interesting approaches to recruitment and development of library staff, which could be adapted to the Canadian context.

A video recording of the teleconference can be borrowed via ILL from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. To search NSPL's *Professional Development Collection* go to **http://ncompass.library.ns.ca/html/english.html** and click on Nova Scotia Provincial Library.

HOT TIPS & UPDATES

NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH NETWORK (NSHN) LAUNCH

NSHN
Nova Scotia **Health Network**

"Reliable health information for Nova Scotians". That is the motto and the goal of the Nova Scotia Health Network. The Network will be launched at the Keshen Goodman Public Library on Tuesday, June 18, at 11 a.m. Dr. Darcy Santor, from the Department of Psychology at Dalhousie University, will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Santor works with the Teen Health Pages project - see http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Health/TeenHealth/index_a.html

The Nova Scotia Health Network grew out of the Western Health Information Partnership which provided consumer health information to Nova Scotians in the western part of the

province. It is the result of the cooperative efforts of a wide variety of partners: Nova Scotia Regional Libraries, Nova Scotia Provincial Library, Capital Health, Canadian Health Network, Community Health Promotion Network Atlantic, Dalhousie University, IWK Family Resource Library, Medical Society of NS, Nova Scotia Community College, Provincial Health Council, QEII Health Sciences Centre, NS Office of Economic Development, Industry Canada, and the Rural Secretariat.

NSHN's goal is to provide Nova Scotians with quality online health information. There is a great deal of health information available on the Internet, and it is often difficult for people to determine its reliability. The Network's web site **www.nshealthnetwork.ca** provides links to quality information, and efforts are underway to include information produced in this province. For example: using funding from a LibraryNet grant obtained by the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, Dalhousie Academic Computing hired two students who digitised hundreds of patient care pamphlets produced by the QEII Health Sciences Centre. Links to these publications will be available through the NSHN web site.

The NSHN's web site also provides directories to health organizations in Nova Scotia, articles from a variety of health and wellness magazines, drug information, multilingual health information, a link to the Canadian Health Network, and an Ask a Librarian feature.

TECHNOLOGY EXPO HELPS LEARNERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The 2nd annual Assistive Technology Expo for People with Disabilities was held on May 3, 2002 at the NSCC, Akerley Campus. It showcased the various forms of technology available to persons with special needs, workers re-entering the workforce, occupational therapists, teachers, job coaches and employers interested in recruiting workers with disabilities. The latest technologies are designed to break down barriers, and expand access to education and careers. Assistive technology is any tool or device that allows people with disabilities to use their own abilities to reach their goals. For example, there were many different kinds of screen readers on display for the vision impaired, along with e-books, and language-processing and handling technologies such as Braille-Lite and InfraRed technology.

Kevin Penny, Wage Subsidy Project Manager, N.S. Department of Education, demonstrated voice-speech recognition with DragonDictate. It consists of a speech recognition program and a headset microphone. DragonDictate eliminates the need to use the keyboard or mouse when operating most Windows-based applications such as word processors, databases, financial packages, on-line services and spreadsheet programs.

The expo was presented by the Department of Education, Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC), Capital Health, RBC Financial Group and Saint Mary's University. These partners make assistive technology a priority in their educational, client or workplace environments.

FAMILY CAREGIVERS ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA AND REGIONAL LIBRARIES

The Family Caregivers Association of Nova Scotia is dedicated to providing information and practical support for all those who provide care to family or friends, either at home or in a care facility. After learning about the successful partnership between regional libraries and the Alzheimer Society, the Association contacted the Provincial Library to explore partnership possibilities. Regional libraries offer many services that support family caregivers: books and videos on care giving, consumer health information, talking books, online databases, children's programs, recreational reading, and a place to go and meet other people in the community.

The Association invited regional libraries to participate in their annual Caregiver Luncheon on May 8 at the Dartmouth Holiday Inn. Laura Jantek from HRL attended the luncheon and spoke about the various ways libraries support caregivers. A joint bookmark was produced for the occasion, one side outlining library services for caregivers, the other promoting the Association's new web site.

The Family Caregivers Association of Nova Scotia publishes a regular newsletter which will be a useful vehicle for promoting library services and distributing library publications. For more information, call: (902) 421-7390 or email: **fcgans@nwood.ns.ca**.

THE LIBRARY'S CONTRIBUTION TO YOUR COMMUNITY

Nova Scotia's Regional Libraries recently took part in a workshop where they learned how to document their public library's social and economic contributions to the local community, identify the benefits that libraries deliver and make best use of this information with fund providers. The session, *The Library's Contribution to your Community*, was conducted by Jim Morgenstern, a principal of dmA Planning and Management Services.

While the role of the public library in the community is well accepted, libraries have been struggling with quantifying their unique contribution. *The Library's Contribution to your Community* is a resource manual designed to help librarians demonstrate the value of the library in the community. The manual, designed for self-use by public libraries, identifies 12 social and 9 economic benefits, describes the information required to document how the library delivers each of the benefits, provides tools for collecting the information needed, outlines a communication strategy for delivering your message to politicians and administrators, illustrates how to use the manual at a level of involvement comfortable for any library, and includes an extensive bibliography of related publications

A session on *The Library's Contribution to your Community* will also be presented at the upcoming CLA Conference. It is well worth attending.

HACKMATACK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE 2002 AWARD

The winners of the Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award 2002 were announced at the award ceremony on Saturday, May 18, held at the Alderney Landing Theatre in Dartmouth. Sharon E. McKay, the author of *Charlie Wilcox* was the winner in the English fiction category, Vivien Bowers received the English nonfiction award for her book *WOW Canada!* and the winner of the inaugural French title was François Barcelo for *Premier trophée pour Momo de Sinro*.

Charlie Wilcox is the thrilling story of a young Newfoundland boy whose dreams of becoming a sealer lead him to stow away on a ship, only to discover he is on the way to the trenches of World War 1. *Charlie Wilcox* won the 2001 Geoffrey Bilson Award for Historical Fiction. Sharon E. McKay lives in Kilbride, Ontario.

WOW Canada!, takes us on a wild and wacky trip across Canada, loaded with quirky trivia, crazy tales and fun things to do in every province. *WOW Canada!* won the 1999 BC Information Book Prize. Vivien Bowers lives in Nelson, British Columbia.

Premier trophée pour Momo de Sinro continues the humorous saga of Momo de Sinro who, after persevering to overcome his clumsiness and lack of skill, hits the ice to win the trophy, while trying not to score on his own goal. *Premier trophée pour Momo de Sinro* was a finalist for the 2000 Mr. Christie Book Award. François Barcelo lives in Montreal, Quebec.

The Hackmatack Award ceremony marked the culmination of this year's award week, during which 18 of the nominated Canadian authors visited participating schools and libraries in New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Three hundred and forty-two reading groups, and thousands of children from grades four to six, participated this year by reading the 30 nominated books. "We loved reading these books!" was a common refrain as groups voted for their favourites.

Information on the Hackmatack Children's Choice Award can be found at **www.hackmatack.ca**.

HALIFAX LIBRARY ASSOCIATION - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Halifax Library Association (HLA) held its Annual General Meeting at the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame, May 16, 2002. The Executive for the 2001-02 year included: President - Bernadette Kennedy, Vice-President - Darlene Chapman, Treasurer - Penny Logan, Secretary - Sarah Hainsworth, Membership Convener - Anjali Vohra, and Councillors - Rod Tucker and Debbie Costello. Membership for the year stood at 48, a 20 percent increase over the previous year.

During the year HLA conducted a Pub Crawl in October, participated in *Freedom to Read*

week in February, and sponsored a workshop; *Surviving the World Wide Web! Using the WWW as a Reference Tool.*

The new executive consists of Darlene Chapman as incoming President, Penny Logan as Treasurer, Sarah Hainsworth as Secretary, Sara Gillis as Membership Convener, Rod Tucker and Debbie Costello as Councillors. The position of Vice-President is vacant.

Business discussed at the meeting included focusing on increasing the membership, having the Association respond to issues such as censorship, and organizing a workshop on Rules of Order. A social followed in the display area of the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame. For more information on the Halifax Library Association visit the website at **http://www.nscc.ns.ca/lrc/hla**.

DIGITIZATION MEETING

A group of Nova Scotia historians, librarians and archivists working on a variety of digital issues such as communications, standards, and community skills development, met at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library (NSPL), May 17. The goals included what projects institutions in the province are undertaking; common areas of interest to avoid duplication, and ways to collaborate in the future.

The morning session consisted of four presentations. Eric Stackhouse, CEO, Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL), discussed how PARL has involved community members in some projects sharing technical expertise. This resulted in a benefit to all. One recent project, *Pictou & Antigonish County Placenames*, can be seen at **http://www.parl.ns.ca/projects/placenames**. PARL has been a leader in the public library field in establishing public-private digitization partnerships in Nova Scotia. Sandy Guadagni, a Human Resources Development Communications Officer based in New Glasgow, accompanied Eric and spoke about the opportunities for libraries and young people in developing and marketing their digital skills. Additional PARL projects can be found at **http://www.parl.ns.ca/pages/history.html**.

Vivien Hannon, Academic Computing Services, Dalhousie University, outlined some of the unique projects undertaken by the Dalhousie Electronic Text Centre, including a multi-lingual online journal, *Belphégor*. Researchers from around the world are finding the material being digitized at Dalhousie University to be invaluable. Thumbnail images from rare books often accompany digitized texts in order to give a taste of the real thing. For more details, visit **http://www.dal.ca/~etc/main.html**.

Calum Ewing, Coordinator, Information Management, Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History shared the story of the digitization project which the Museum is involved in at Canso. This project, including 7500 Nova Scotia historical images, will be launched shortly. The project is

on-going, with staff based at the Canso Enterprise Centre. The Museum Information Management System (MIMS) is being used to create metadata for each record. The metadata consists of technical file information, subject information, copyright/ownership information, and collection management data. Information relating to the storage location of the long term archival copy of the images is also included. The Museum's website is at **http://museum.gov.ns.ca/mnh/index.htm**.

Jennifer Richard, Academic Librarian, Vaughan Memorial Library, Acadia University gave a presentation on The E.C. Smith Digital Herbarium. She discussed how metadata had been added to accompany each of the more than1000 images pertaining to Nova Scotia flora. To further enrich the records, information about the original specimen collectors is now being added. This website is fully searchable and can be viewed at **http://luxor.acadiau.ca/library/Herbarium**.

Discussions among the participants in the afternoon resulted in a decision to create a current awareness tool on digital projects in Nova Scotia. The NSPL and Dalhousie's School of Library and Information Studies will work closely together to develop and maintain this tool. The present objectives are to list currently completed digital projects as well as those in progress; to list standards; to itemize and annotate funding sources; to share useful background information, etc. For information on the group, please send an email to **digitization@ednet.ns.ca**.

HLA WORKSHOP: SURVIVING THE WORLD WIDE WEB! USING THE WWW AS A REFERENCE TOOL

On May 11, 2002, Debbie Costello, Public Services Librarian with the Nova Scotia Community College Library Services gave a workshop on Internet searching skills, entitled *Surviving the World Wide Web! Using the WWW as a Reference Tool* sponsored by the Halifax Library Association. The session examined how search engines work and why they retrieve what they retrieve, gave in-depth coverage of the search engine Google, the subject directory Yahoo and the metasearch engine Vivisimo, and featured an overview of meta reference sites and the Invisible Web. During the workshop Ms Costello explored usage of the most appropriate web search tool for a variety of information requests. The session was informative and fun, as it was modeled after the popular reality television series *Survival* and featured "immunity challenges" where participants had the opportunity to use their new searching skills to win team points or prizes.

For more information on programming visit HLA's website at - **http://www.nscc.ns.ca/lrc/hla/programs.htm**.

THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF ADULT EDUCATION, EASTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education - Eastern Regional Conference was held May 10 and 11, 2002 at Mount Saint Vincent University (MSVU) in Halifax. The conference theme was *Organizational learning and the learning society*, and was attended by a variety of academics, community and health care professionals, human resource personnel, and representatives of government, labour, and special interest groups.

Highlights from two of the sessions included a presentation by Susan Weagle, Senior Policy Analyst, Nova Scotia Department of Health. Ms Weagle discussed knowledge management, which she defined as "a set of practices that create, organize and leverage collective knowledge to enhance organizational performance." She spoke about tacit knowledge, which is "in our heads", and explicit knowledge, which for i.e., is contained in documents. Good strategies for sharing knowledge in an organization include storytelling, metaphors, dialogue, mapping (visually mapped information as opposed to traditional documents - e.g. organizational charts), and communities of practice, which translates into an informal network of workers, each person sharing in part a common agenda and shared interests.

A second highlight was a panel on *Visions of the Just Learning Society*, which included Geraldine Ryan, Reno Hache and Joanne Burns-Theriault, Recreation Officer, Mount Saint Vincent University. Both Geraldine Ryan and Reno Hache have recently graduated from the MSVU Masters degree in Adult Education. Joanne spoke about the need for students to become more active in university/community affairs before and after graduation. Reno talked about his involvement in trying to save a New Brunswick heritage building as an exercise in civil awareness and community involvement. Geraldine spoke about learning audits as one of her favourite ways of establishing a learning society within an institution, such as a public library. A learning consultant might build on people's skills to improve informal learning through better communication for example. One method for encouraging more formal study might be to publish profiles of workers' learning in library guides.

The conference provided a useful overview of some of the ways adults face learning challenges and some of the obstacles which arise in meeting those needs. For more information on the 2003 national conference, which will be held in Halifax, please note the Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education (CASAE) website at **http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/CASAE/maineng.html**.

SUMMER READING Program RECEIVES CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP FROM CIBC

CIBC is donating $10,000 to the provincial Summer Reading Program. The program is run by the regional public libraries to encourage young people to continue reading during the summer months. Each year, $17,000 in provincial funding is devoted to the Summer Reading Program.

Left to right: Terry Gardiner, CIBC's Atlantic Regional Vice-President of Branch Banking; Wendy Robichaud, Community Relations Coordinator, CEHRL; Jane Purves, Minister of Education.

CIBC's donation will greatly increase the libraries' resources for reaching more children and parents. "The Summer Reading Program fits perfectly with our vision of helping young people at turning points in their lives," said Terry Gardiner, CIBC's Atlantic regional vice-president of branch banking. "When children develop a love of reading at an early age, they build a solid foundation of literacy skills that will last a lifetime," said Education Minister Jane Purves.

The bank's donation will purchase promotional items including t-shirts, sweatshirts, posters, pencils, bookmarks, buttons, fridge magnets, mouse pads and temporary tattoos. They are used as incentives and prizes for activities such as story time, crafts, games and author readings. They also provide children and parents with information about the program and encourage them to participate.

Participation in the bilingual program has been steadily increasing since it was introduced in 1983. Last year, about 13,500 youngsters across Nova Scotia visited libraries and enjoyed a variety of books, with a focus on Canadian and Atlantic Canadian authors. The Summer Reading Program is co-ordinated by the Council on Youth Services, which comprises representatives from the nine regional public libraries and the Nova Scotia Provincial Library.

REFERENCE ON THE NET

Here are some more reference questions which were referred to the Provincial Library by the Regional Public Libraries and answered with help from resources found on the Internet.

Q. The patron wants names and contact information for Canadian manufacturers/retailers of digital, automatic chimes and carillons.

A. Use the keywords "chimes" or "carillons" to search in the Canadian Trade Index at **http://www.ctidirectory.com/**, Fraser's Canadian Trade Directory at **http://www.frasers.com/** and the Canadian Company Capabilities database at **http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/sc_coinf/ccc/engdoc/homepage.html**. The yellow page style directories yellow.ca at **http://www.yellow.ca/** and Yellow Pages.ca at **http://www.yellowpages.ca/** are also useful for this kind of question because they can be searched by product.

Q. The patron wants information on Canadian aboriginal spiritual beliefs which are related to skin drums.

A. The First Nations Periodical Index at **http://www.lights.com/sifc/** was searched using the keyword "drums". An article titled *One voice, one song, one heartbeat* in the *Saskatchewan Sage* magazine was found. According to a note in the record for this, it is about "The drum: history, creation of, powwow, ceremonies, round dances and songs and singers." Another source to search for this question is *Industry Canada's Aboriginal Digital Collections* at **http://aboriginalcollections.ic.gc.ca/**. At the Search Page **http://aboriginalcollections.ic.gc.ca/e/search.asp** enter the keyword "drums spiritual beliefs" and select the search criteria "All Words". This locates a document titled *Seven Generations of the Nations Capital* which has a Drum and Dance section where there is a paragraph on native mythology about the skin

drums.

LINKed

Canadian Heritage's Celebrate Canada! Site at http://www.pch.gc.ca/canada/english.htm encourages Canadians to celebrate Canada from June 21 to Canada Day on July 1. This is a good time to highlight some web sites which can be used to answer reference questions about Canada.

The Ceremonial and Canadian Symbols Promotion page on the Department of Canadian Heritage site at **http://www.pch.gc.ca/ceremonial-symb/english/index.html** has information on the symbols for Canada and the provinces, holidays and anniversaries, protocol, the monarchy and links to sites and publications with more information.

The Atlas of Canada at **http://atlas.gc.ca/** is the successor to the five previous print editions of *The National Atlas of Canada*. This online version is the sixth edition. It was produced through the collaboration of government departments and agencies as well as private organizations. There are interactive maps available in both official languages. *The Map Archives* section has viewable maps from the 5th and 4th editions of the print atlas as well. *The Historical Atlas of Canada Online Learning Project* at **http://mercator.geog.utoronto.ca/hacddp/page1.htm** is the Internet version of the three volume *Historical Atlas of Canada*. 15% of the proposed *Table of Contents* is currently available. The interactive maps can be accessed through the *Table of Contents* link. This project is being developed by the University of Toronto Department of Geography.

The Canadian Encyclopedia at **http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/** is the Internet version of the print encyclopedia. In addition to the basic search, there is an advanced search or you can browse the subject index for material. The encyclopedia is available in French and English.

The Canadian Confederation website at **http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/2/18/** was produced by the National Library. It is a bilingual site with articles, photographs and maps about Confederation. The material on the site is from the collection of the National Library of Canada.

Images Canada at **http://www.imagescanada.ca/** is a bilingual site which provides access to over 75,000 images of Canadian events, people, places and things. The images are from the collections of six participating Canadian cultural institutions and they can be found through a simple search or an advanced search form.

Online Resources for Canadian Heritage at **http://www.civilization.ca/orch/www00_e.html** is provided by the Canadian Museum of Civilization. Links for resources are arranged under the following topics: General and reference works, Geography and local history, Museums and other cultural institutions, History, Archaeology, Ethnology, and Folk culture and popular culture. The French version of this guide is available at **http://www.civilization.ca/orch/www00_f.html**.

Web sites which were featured in previous "Linked" columns are now arranged by subject category on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at **http://www.library.ns.ca/reference/index.html**. If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at **morris@gov.ns.ca**.

The Disseminator is an electronic newsletter from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, 3770 Kempt Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3K 4X8. TEL (902) 424-2457; FAX (902) 424-0633

http://www.library.ns.ca/publications/disseminator/

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